

### ABSTRACT OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

A sound absorbing article, which may be formed to a thickness of between 1 and 2 mm and have an NRC value between 0.8 and 0.85, is provided. Additionally the sound absorbing article may be formed of materials, which are flame retardant and environmentally friendly. The sound absorbing article includes (i) a material which is pervious to air, and which is characterized by proximal and distal surfaces with respect to a sound source, an internal structure, and a specific weight; (ii) a coating which adheres to the surfaces and internal structure, thus increasing the specific weight by a predetermined factor; and preferably (iii) a membrane, attached to the material at selected bonding points, forming interconnected channels between the material and the membrane, and allowing air to pass through them.